

## Solar photovoltaic market continues to grow in Europe and around the world

*The European Photovoltaic Industry Association's (EPIA) new Market Report 2011 shows important increase in grid-connected capacity of PV systems, but changing economics will require development of new markets in the world.*

Creata il 27/01/2012 - 17:41

The world-wide solar photovoltaic (PV) market continued to grow in 2011 even in the midst of financial and economic crisis, with new grid-connected PV capacities **rising by 27.7 GW** and propelling the global PV capacity from 39.7 GW at the end of 2010 **to 67.4 GW** at the end of 2011.

Almost **21 GW** of this growth occurred in **Europe**. The number of markets reaching more than 1 GW of additional capacity during 2011 rose from 3 to 6. In 2010 the top 3 markets were Germany, Italy and the Czech Republic; in 2011 **Italy leads the ranks** and Germany, China, the USA, France and Japan follow, each with over 1 GW of new capacity. Those are among the key findings of **EPIA's new "Market Report 2011"**, which assesses PV's development in all major markets around the world.

**Europe** still accounts for the predominant share of the global PV market, the report finds, with 75% of all new capacity in 2011. The two biggest markets in 2011, Italy and Germany, account for nearly 60% of global market growth during the past year.

But the report also notes that in coming years it will be **crucial for the PV industry to develop new markets**. "The PV industry is at a crossroads," said EPIA President Ingmar Wilhelm. "Whilst European markets have always outpaced home production, this will presumably no longer be the case in the years to come. New markets around the world will have to be opened up to drive PV development in the coming decade just as Europe accounted for it during the last decade."

Added Mr Wilhelm, "Strengthening the PV momentum by adding additional markets of important growth can be considered the single most important achievement on the continued growth track of world-wide PV development. And yet, many markets - in particular China, the USA and Japan, but also Australia and India - have addressed only a very small part of their **enormous potential**. Moreover, several countries from large sunbelt regions like Africa, the Middle East, Asia and South America are on the brink of starting their development."

Among the key statistics of the report:

- Total installed **PV capacity world-wide** reached **67.4 GW** at the end of 2011. PV is now, after hydro and wind power, the third most important renewable energy source in terms of globally installed capacity.
- The total **energy output of the world's PV** capacity run over a calendar year is equal to some **80 billion kWh**. This energy volume is sufficient to cover the annual power supply needs of over 20 million households in the world.
- In **Europe, over 50 GW** of PV systems were installed at the end of 2011. With growing contributions from Southern European countries, the average load factor of this capacity is increasing and will produce over 60 billion kWh on an annual basis, enough energy to supply over 15 million European households.

Additional data and analysis of individual markets can be found in the full text of the report, which is available

by [clicking here](#).

Creata il 27/01/2012 - 17:41

**URL di origine (Salvata il 22/05/2012 - 10:39):**

<http://www.qualenergia.it/articoli/20120127-solar-photovoltaic-market-continues-grow-europe-and-around-world>